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The situation in the Middle East

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Fifty-eighth year

Letter dated 6 October 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I provide you hereinafter with a list of continued Israeli violations and acts of aggression against Lebanon committed from 22 September 2003 to 29 September 2003.

Violations of airspace

Between 1625 and 1900 hours on 22 September 2003 an Israeli military reconnaissance aircraft flew over the sea at a distance of 12 miles from the coast, proceeding towards Damur, and then circled over the sea between Damur and Beirut, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1915 and 2135 hours on the same day, Israeli military aircraft overflew the occupied territories parallel to the Lebanese border at various altitudes, releasing heat balloons.

Between 1222 and 1300 hours on 23 September 2003 four Israeli military aircraft flew over the sea at a distance of 15 miles from the coast, proceeding towards Tripoli, and reached the Al-Arz (Cedars) region, whereupon they proceeded at an altitude of 27,000 feet to Beirut and Na`imah and circled over Beirut and Shakka, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 2100 and 2200 hours on the same day, two Israeli helicopters overflew the Lebanese-Palestinian border opposite the town of Rumaysh.

Between 2000 and 2015 hours on 25 September 2003 two Israeli helicopters overflew the occupied Shab`a Farms area, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

Between 1130 and 1200 hours on 29 September 2003 two Israeli helicopters overflew the occupied Shab`a Farms area, thus violating Lebanese airspace.

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Violations of territorial waters

At 1155 hours on 22 September 2003, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, within Palestinian territorial waters, an Israeli military boat fired a number of rounds from medium-sized machine guns over the said waters.

At 2315 hours on 24 September 2003, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, within Palestinian territorial waters, an Israeli military boat fired a flare bomb.

At 1200 hours on 25 September 2003, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, within Palestinian territorial waters, an Israeli military boat fired a number of rounds from medium-sized guns in the direction of the said waters.

At 2159 hours on 26 September 2003, in the open sea, an Israeli military boat fired a flare bomb off Ra's Naqurah, within Palestinian territorial waters.

Between 2110 hours and 2220 hours on 29 September 2003, in the open sea off Ra's Naqurah, within Palestinian territorial waters, an Israeli military boat fired a number of rounds from medium-sized weapons as well as firing flare bombs over the said waters.

Israeli acts of aggression

At 2020 hours on 22 September 2003 Israeli enemy forces, from one of their positions inside the occupied Palestinian territory, fired a number of flare bombs over the said territory opposite Ra's Naqurah.

At 2055 hours on 28 September 2003 Israeli enemy forces, from one of their positions inside the occupied Palestinian territory, fired two flare bombs over the liberated Lebanese territory outside the town of Dayr Mimas.

At 0244 hours on 29 September 2003, the French vessel *Le Suroit*, while performing the mission of surveying seismic faults along the Lebanese coast, within Lebanese territorial waters at a distance of 11 miles west of the Bayadah region and four miles north of the border with Palestine, received a radio communication from an Israeli enemy vessel at sea, warning it to leave, thus forcing it to depart from the area and discontinue its mission there.

These acts of aggression reaffirm Israel's hostile attitude, and the nature and number of those unjustified and inexcusable violations and acts of aggression confirm Israel's premeditated intent to threaten and provoke and to disrupt security and stability in order to serve its aggressive, expansionist goals throughout the region.

The Mission of Lebanon, in drawing the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the gravity and possible consequences of such acts of aggression, requests to have this letter of complaint circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 37, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sami **Kronfol**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative